

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 13661 261101Z

43

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 13661

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJECT: DAOUD INTERVIEW BY YOMIURI SHIMBUN

REF: KABUL 6325 (NOTAL)

1. YOMIURI JOURNALIST PROVIDED US FULL TEXT OF SEPT 17 INTERVIEW OF PRES DAOUD BY YOMIURI NEWSMAN KENZABURO SEKI, WHICH WE TRANSMIT BELOW. IT APPEARS TO BE ROUGHLY SAME VERSION CARRIED IN KABUL TIMES. SEKI TOLD YOMIURI HIS ARTICLE WAS HEAVILY CENSORED BY AFGHANS. SINCE YOMIURI IS STILL DEBATING WHETHER OR NOT TO PUBLISH INTERVIEW, ANY LEAK FROM THIS SOURCE COULD PROVE EMBARRASSING TO YOMIURI. THUS, TOKYO SOURCE SHOULD BE PROTECTED. WHEN SEKI RETURNS TO TOKYO WE HOPE TO OBTAIN ORIGINAL VERSION OF INTERVIEW.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TOKYO 13661 261101Z

2. TEXT:

Q. AFGHANISTAN OCCUPIES A KEY STRATEGIC POSITION IN CENTRAL ASIA. HOW DO YOU VIEW THE PROBLEM OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD?

A. DEVELOPING COUNTRIES REQUIRE PEACE AND SECURITY MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE. THEREFORE AFGHANISTAN, TOO, IS STRONG SUPPORTER OF PEACE IN THE ASIAN REGION; BUT TO ACHIEVE THIS END INDIVIDUALLY IS NOT AN EASY TASK. I HOPE THAT MANKIND HAS REALIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE AND SECURITY WHICH PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN HUMAN COMMUNITIES.

Q. WE CANNOT BUT ADMIRE YOUR DIPLOMATIC INGENUITY IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL THREE BIG POWERS; NAMELY THE UNITED STATES, THE SOVIET UNION AND CHINA. HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE? WHAT ARE THE PROSPECTS OF THIS "NON-COMMITTAL" POLICY?

A. AS I MENTIONED BEFORE, OUR PEOPLE CHERISH GREAT DESIRE FOR PEACE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SO OUR AMICABLE RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, THE UNITED STATES, AND CHINA ARE BASED ON THE PILLARS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY. WE ARE PERFECTLY SATISFIED WITH OUR PRESENT POLICY. WE INVARIABLY ENDEAVOUR TO AVOID INTERFERENCE IN THE DISSENSION PERTAINING TO THESE COUNTRIES. THE POLICY OF NON-ALIGNMENT IS GOODWILL TOWARDS ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD, WE DO NOT CHERISH AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS AGAINST ANY COUNTRY OR NATION, WE BELIEVE IN THE PRINCIPLE OF HONESTY AND FAIRPLAY IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL DEALINGS. WE DO NOT BELONG TO ANY MILITARY PACT BUT WE ARE ALWAYS AGAINST COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM.

Q. AFGHANISTAN HAS THE PUSHTOONISTAN PROBLEMS, INVOLVING PAKISTAN, AND IT IS REPORTED THAT THE AFGHANS REFUSE THE PRESENT BORDER WITH PAKISTAN BECAUSE IT IS A BRITISH IMPOSITION. WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON THE OUTLOOK FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 TOKYO 13661 261101Z

THESE PROBLEMS?

A. THE CAUSE OF PUSHTOONISTAN EXISTED PRIOR TO THE CREATION OF PAKISTAN. THIS PROBLEM IS A COLONIALISTIC INVENTION STILL FOLLOWED BY PAKISTAN. IT OUR ASPIRATION THAT THE BALUCHI AND PUSHTOOS SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITH OCCASION TO PLAY THEIR PART TOGETHER WITH THEIR LEADERS IN DETERMINING THEIR DESTINY.

WE FAVOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THIS DEADLOCK, BUT PAKISTAN WITH THE HELP OF ITS EXAGGERATED PROPAGANDA MACHINERY HAS GIVEN IT A QUITE DIFFERENT FORM. I AM CONVINCED THAT NO POWER ON EARTH CAN DISHEARTEN LE BALUCHIS AND THE PUSHTOOS TO MAKE THEM DEVIATE FROM UNFLINCHING APPROACH TOWARDS THEIR TARGAWS. HOWEVER, AS FAR AS THIS MATTER IS CONCERNED, WE ARE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE AND FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION FOR THE PROBLEMS, BUT THE ATTITUDE OF PAKISTAN IS UTTERLY DIFFERENT.

Q. DO YOU PREDICT ANY HOPE FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AFGHAN AND PAKISTAN IN NEAR FUTURE.

A. IN VIEW OF THE EXISTING SITUATION THERE IS NO HOPE.

Q. THE SOVIET UNION HAS SCHEMES FOR A COLLECTIVE SECURITY SYSTEM IN ASIA, WHEREAS CHINA IS AGAINST THIS INCLINATION. WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ON THIS SUBJECT?

A. IN MY OPINION, THE STATUS OF ASIAN COUNTRIES, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THEIR SPECIAL INTERESTS, DIFFER FROM THE STANDS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

Q. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS OF POLITICAL REFORM AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OBTAINED SO FAR, OR SINCE YOU WERE SWORN IN AS THE COUNTRY'S PRESIDENT?

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 TOKYO 13661 261101Z

A. THE LAPSE OF A COUPLE OF YEARS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NATION IS A VERY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AND YET DURING THIS BRIEF PERIOD TREMENDOUS ACHIEFEMENTS SPECIFICALLY IN THE AREA OF ECONOMIC UPLIFT HAVE BEEN ATTAINED. WE BELIEVE THAT ECONOMIC CHANGES MAY RESULT IN SOCIAL CHANGES IN A MANNER TO BENEFIT THE PUBLIC AT LARGE.

Q. HOW IS THE QUESTION OF LAND REFORM IN YOUR COUNTRY?

A. ONLY A FEW MONTHS HAVE ELAPSED SINCE THE PROMULGATION OF THE LAWS OF BEARING THE VALUES (SIC). WE START THE APPLICATION AFTER THE PASSAGE OF ONE YEAR, FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GREAT REVOLUTION

AND OF THE GREAT OBJECTIVE. WE HAVE A FEW YEARS.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR VIEW CONCERNING THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF AFGHAN?

A. THIS IMPORTANT TASK HAS BEEN HANDED OVER TO A COMMISSION AND IS TO BE PROMULGATED SOON AFTER ITS COMPLETION.

Q. AFGHANISTAN HAS BEEN HURT BY THE WORLD-WIDE STAGFLATION, I BELIEVE. WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS ON THE FUTURE OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES?

A. WE HAVE SIMILAR STANDS AS OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE THIRD WORLD AND AFGAN'S VIEW WAS EXPRESSED IN THE CONFERENCE OF LIMA WHICH WAS CONVENED SOMETIME AGO.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR EVALUATION OF THE FUTURE OF AFGHANISTAN-JAPANESE COOPERATION, BOTH IN THE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FIELDS?

A. JAPAN HAS NOT YET PARTICIPATED TO ANY GREAT EXTENT IN THE ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF AFGHAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 05 TOKYO 13661 261101Z

Q. WAS THERE ANY SPECIFIC REQUEST FOR JAPAN'S ECONOMIC AID?

A. YES, WE HAVE DISPATCHED SPECIAL PROPOSALS TO JAPAN AND HOPE THAT JAPANESE FRIENDS, AS IN THE PAST, WILL TAKE KEEN INTEREST IN THIS MATTER.
SHOESMITH

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